

NENAHNEZAD FISH PASSAGE NAVAJO FISH & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT

NARRATIVE REPORT JUNE 09-30, 2003

I. SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- A. Took two (2) days of training in the field of Fish Passage Operations at Grand Junction on the Gunnison River, learning to measure, weigh and pit tag fish; maintenance and cleaning of the facility, etc.
- B. Began operation at Nenahnezad's facility on June 9th by establishing compound's maintenance, water diversion and preparation of holding tanks.
- C. Met with Jason Davis, Biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service from Albuquerque, who assist in native fish identification to insure correct and accurate sorting. Also met with Dale Ryden, Biologist with US Fish and Wildlife Service from Grand Junction, who assisted with pit tagging and facility operation and with Ernest Teller, Biological Science Technician with the Bureau of Indian Affairs who has provided us with facility support.
- D. Provided employment to one (1) student under the Office of Dine' Youth in which I am providing work experience and education in the field of Research and Management of Endangered Fish. Student had been scheduled to work for three (3) weeks but has been extended to nine (9) weeks.

II. PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- A. Plan to begin assisting U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs at NAPI Razorback grow out ponds. Transfer of Razorback suckerfish species to other ponds while ponds are being maintained.
- B. Will coordinate and assist the US Fish and Wildlife Service in the San Juan River Basin Electro fishing project for three (3) consecutive days. More hands on training on fish species identification and pit tagging native species of fishes.
- C. Scheduled tours for the Nenahnezad Save the Children Program in which we provide education in endangered fish, types of native fish and natural resources.
- D. Community involvement by educating community about different types of endangered fishes, the projects proposed and objectives. Plan and already have gotten involved with local fisherman. Talking and explaining the different species of native fishes. Educated community on which endangered fishes to look out for and to revive until able to be released.

IV. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

SEE ATTACHED DEMOGRAPHICS

1. Native Species
2. Floy tagged Fish
3. Total Fish Using Fish Passage
4. Total Population/Fish Graph

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Recommend a more permanent power source for the compound then the use of a generator. Power is insufficient for the cranes and hoist motors, as we have had to have two motors repaired. Refueling and maintenance of the generator is time consuming.
- B. Recommend installation of a phone line at the compound for better communication. There is no way to contact outside resources or to be contacted by other departments. At present, I am utilizing my own personal cell phone for communication purposes.
- C. Recommend the purchase of a digital camera to photograph rare species of fish for identification and a lap top computer to send information and photos via e-mail to Navajo Fish and Wildlife Dept.in Windowrock, US Fish and Wildlife in Grand Junction and Albuquerque and to also maintain and store program data.
- D. Request for a two-way radio for safety concerns, due to recent occurrences of people swimming in the river.

VI. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

- A. Silt has been building up in the passage traps due to no sluth canal. Engineers from the BIA have come to the facility to survey the problem and give their recommendation on their analysis. A proposal is in the process of being submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation on the proposed project cost and scope of work.
- B. Water flow had been as low as 22 inches, when the project began the flow level was at 38 inches. This problem was corrected by the increase in water released from Navajo Dam. As of June 30th there has been an increase from the 22 inches to 29 inches with a slow steady increase by an inch a day.

SUBMITTED BY:

**ALBERT LAPAHIE
FISH CULTURIST
NAVAJO FISH AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT**

NENAHNEZAD FISH PASSAGE
SAN JUAN RIVER BASIN RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM
JUNE 09-30, 2003
NATIVE SPECIES

	DATE	TIME	SPECIES	T/LENGTH	S/LENGTH	WEIGHT	PIT TAG #	CONDITION/COMMENTS
			COLORADO PIKEMINNOW	(Ptychocheilus lucius)				
1	June 09,2003	1730 hrs	Ptyluc	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Did not record any data on this fish,due to fish escaping back out the fish trap.fish was healthy and was in excellent condition.
2	June 18,2003	1030 hrs	Ptyluc	560mm	N/A	1530 gm	7F7D476661	Fish appears to be normal
3	June 20,2003	1000 hrs	Ptyluc	520mm	435mm	1288 gm	7F7B122152	Good condition / Photo
4	June 20,2003	1400 hrs	Ptyluc	520mm	455mm	1008 gm	7F7B1B0B31	Second trap /1 of 2 Pikeminnow
5	June 20,2003	1400 hrs	Ptyluc	550mm	430mm	1120 gm	7F70317958	revived then released up river
6	June 24,2003	1300 hrs	Ptyluc	530mm	450mm	1400 gm	7F7B0E4C63	Two caught / muddy water
7	June 24,2003	1330 hrs	Ptyluc	533mm	455mm	1186 gm	7F7B14375A	Revived then released
8	June 26,2003	1100 hrs	Ptyluc	533mm	455mm	1186 gm	7F7B14375A	Snagged by fisherman/still alive revived then release Caught/June 24,2003 (Prior)
			ROUNDTAIL CHUB	(Gila robusta)				
1	June 19,2003	0730 hrs	Gilrob	390mm	N/A	924 gm	512D5F2B33	Bright coloration (orange/yellow on fins) spawning/molting
			RAZORBACK SUCKER	(Xyrauchen texanus)				
1	June 19,2003	0730 hrs	Xyrtex	400mm	335mm	700 gm	423F03051B	Excellent condition (normal) Photo / Revived then released back up river